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elect such representatives the Collector will nominate other representatives from that body and if such representatives decline their seats, he may nominate other persons to the seats.

"(c) Sri M. Bhooshanam was nominated by the Collector of Madras under rule 6 (a) of the Excise Licensing Board Rules.

"(d) The Collector of Madras addressed the 42 labour organizations in the city to elect a representative for each association in the first instance and from among the persons so elected to elect one representative to work on the Excise Licensing Board. Only 20 unions replied to the Collector. Seventeen reported the name of Sri Sarangaseshan, one the name of Sri M. Bhooshanam and another the name of Sri Ranganatham and the remaining one union merely made suggestions. As the Labour organizations thus failed to conduct an election to elect *one* representative collectively to the Excise Licensing Board, the Collector had to use his discretion and nominate a member to the Excise Licensing Board under rule 6 (a) of the Excise Licensing Board Rules.

"(e) & (f) A representation objecting to the nomination of the Labour member by the Collector was received from the Secretary, Government Press Workers' Union, and the same was transferred to the Board of Revenue for disposal. The Board declined to interfere in the matter as the nomination was within the discretion of the Collector."

Behaviour of the contractors in the Ellore Municipal markets and cart-stands.

* 31 *Q.*—Sri MOTHAY NARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether he and the Commissioner of the Ellore Municipality received any complaints from Sri M. Kotiah Nayudu, journalist, and Secretary of the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance Committee, Ellore, and other merchants regarding the alleged high-handed and autocratic behaviour and conduct of the contractors of the Ellore Municipal Markets and Cart-stands, and alleged illegal, forcible and unauthorized collections of moneys towards the fees of the said markets and cart-stands;

(b) how many complaints regarding the same and from whom and on what dates have since been received and enquired into and the results thereof;

(c) whether the District Magistrate and Collector, West Godavari, and the District Superintendent of Police, West Godavari, have received similar complaints from Sri M. Kotiah Nayudu, journalist, and Secretary of the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance Committee, Ellore, and whether any attempt has since been made to send for the parties concerned to enquire into this matter; and

(d) if so, what is the result, and if not, why not?

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" (a) & (b) The Government received two petitions from Sri M. Kotaiah, one on 22nd May 1946 and the other on 25th May 1946, alleging forcible collection of unauthorized fees by the Ellore Municipal market and cart-stand contractors in respect of laden carts entering the town, but not using the municipal market or cart-stand. The Commissioner of the Ellore Municipality received a similar petition from Sri Kotaiah in April 1946 and three other petitions in May 1946 purporting to be reminders regarding his first petition. The Commissioner received petitions on the same subject also from Sri Y. Rama Rao, M. Veera Venkayya and K. Ranganayakulu, Fuel merchants, in March 1946.

" The Government and the Municipal Commissioner have not received further petitions on the subject. The result of the enquiry into the petitions is mentioned in the answer to clauses (c) and (d).

" (c) & (d) The Collector and the District Superintendent of Police have received similar petitions from Sri Kotaiah. The Municipal Commissioner, the Police department and the Collector have enquired into the complaints against the contractors and have submitted reports to the Government. The Municipal Commissioner who is the proper authority to take action against the contractors has, after conducting an enquiry, fined the contractors Rs. 20 each and has warned them that their contracts would be cancelled if they persisted in the collection of unauthorised fees. There have been no complaints of unauthorized collections subsequently."

Appointment of the Commissioners of Municipalities.

* 32 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether rules governing the appointment of commissioners of municipalities have been framed; and if so, what they are;

(b) who appoints these commissioners;

(c) whether a list of eligible persons for these posts is maintained and if so what is the procedure adopted in framing this list;

(d) whether the Government propose to alter the method by transferring the selection to the Public Service Commission;

(e) whether there are one or more classes of commissioners and what the grade of salary fixed for each class is; and

(f) who is the authority invested with the power of making promotions from one class to another?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" (a) The appointment of municipal commissioners is governed by the provisions of section 12-C of the Madras District Municipalities Act. Apart from these provisions, no rules have been framed by Government for the purpose.